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THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

application of : **Confirmation No. 5863**
Takashi TSUJIMOTO et al. : Docket No. 2003_1244
Serial No. 10/649,764 : Group Art Unit 3682
Filed August 28, 2003 : Examiner L. Footland
TAPERED ROLLER BEARINGS AND GEAR
SHAFT SUPPORT DEVICES : Mail Stop: Amendment

RESPONSE

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the requirement contained in the June 29, 2004 Office Action, applicants hereby elect the species of Fig. 9. Claims 4-10 and 14-20 are readable on the elected species of Fig. 9.

However, the restriction requirement is traversed on the basis that the only claims present in the application are all readable on a single species (i.e. the species of Fig. 9). That is, the Examiner's attention is directed to the Preliminary Amendment filed on August 28, 2003 (together with the filing of the present divisional application). For the Examiner's convenience, a copy of the Preliminary Amendment is enclosed, together with a copy of a PTO date-stamped postal receipt card showing that the PTO in fact received this Preliminary Amendment on August 28, 2003.

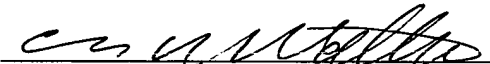
This Preliminary Amendment was effective to cancel claims 1-3 and 11-13, leaving only the claims 4-10 and 14-20, all of which are readable on the species illustrated in Fig. 9. The Examiner's attention is next directed to the "Remarks" section of the Preliminary Amendment in

which it is indicated that all of the claims 4-10 and 14-20 are readable on the species illustrated in Fig. 9. It is noted that the "Remarks" section of the Preliminary Amendment contained a typographical error; item 3 of the second paragraph should have read "Figs. 4a-5." The attached copy of the Preliminary Amendment has been hand-marked to reflect this correction.

Thus, in view of the above, a full examination on the merits of this application is now respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Takashi TSUJIMOTO et al.

By 
Charles R. Watts
Registration No. 33,142
Attorney for Applicants

CRW/asd
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
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